

## MAYOR'S CORNER

Every year during the holidays I think about what a beautiful town we live in. As I write this, Christmas lights are lit along Congress Street, the New Market Community Park is lit up in the evenings, and many homes are decorated for the holidays. I thank those who helped with this and appreciate the work that our town employees have put into improving our decorations every year.

This is the time of year to be grateful and optimistic. I greatly appreciate the work done by Dr. Bompiani during his tenure as Mayor. Our town is in a better place because of his efforts! In addition, he provided a pattern and model on holding meetings and ensuring all points of view were presented. He will continue his service to New Market as an elected member of the Town Council.

Several years ago, we surveyed the residents of New Market to determine what improvements needed to be considered. As we enter 2025, many of the projects identified in the survey are being acted on. The good news is that the same council members who were elected as our projects were proposed and planned are still actively serving on the Council. It is to our advantage that Nathan Garrison, our Town Manager, is an experienced project manager and is now in a good position to help implement town improvements.

The new planning stage for the water tanks has required extensive reviews and this project has taken a great deal of time. We are now in the process of securing the financing. We should be set to begin the project by spring this year. As you have read in earlier information, our existing water tank needs to be replaced. The costs of this project will be substantial and necessitate increasing the cost of water/sewer for all residents and businesses. Please note that our water supply is good! But the infrastructure to provide the water to our town needs attention.

Most of the paperwork and planning is completed for a new sidewalk on Route 211 East. Sidewalks were the top priority on our town survey in 2017. It will increase the safety of our residents once this project is completed.

Transforming New Market School into a Community Center will require more discussion and planning. Frazier Associates submitted a report on the scope and expense of the transformation as well as information on some possible grants to support this work. The Council will review and discuss this information as we start the new year. The Community Center will be an expensive project, so we will need to analyze the costs and benefits to consider how to contain costs and consider if we can find a sensible way to move forward.

As the new Mayor, I will be entering 2025 with a sense of energy and gratitude. I appreciate the support that our residents expressed in the election in November. I am grateful to continue working with the Council members who will serve our town over the coming years. The position of Mayor is a new role for me. I would like to find ways to increase public input and accessibility to the work we do on the Council. I hope to be able to hold informal meetings to hear feedback on various town issues. I can be reached by email at [p.hughes@newmarketvirginia.com](mailto:p.hughes@newmarketvirginia.com), or you can leave messages at the Town Office and the staff will let me know to return your call.

As I take stock of our Town's current situation, there are several store fronts downtown that remain empty. I hope we can work with property owners to analyze the condition and situation of these buildings to see how we can revitalize these properties. These properties are privately owned so our actions may be limited, but the impact of empty storefronts impacts the entire town. On a high note, a few new small businesses have arrived in recent months. This is encouraging! All New Market's businesses benefit from the support of our local residents.

I wish all residents of New Market, as well as members of our staff, a Happy New Year!

Peter Hughes  
Mayor

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## DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that if your wheel falls off your trash bin, we can replace it? Just call the office at 540-740-3432 as soon as you notice the wheel is missing. As long as we have wheels in stock, we will send our Public Works crew out to fix it for you by the end of the day on Fridays after the trash is picked up in town.

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## LIBRARY NEWS

Library hours will be changing in January. Monday-Friday the Library will be open from 11:00am-4:00pm. We will be open Thursday evenings from 6:00pm-8:00pm and Saturdays from 10:00am-1:00pm.

- Books and Babies (geared to children age birth to three) First Wednesday, 10:00 am

Note that the January B & B will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 8, due to New Year's Day on the first Wed. Our theme will be "Let it Snow!"

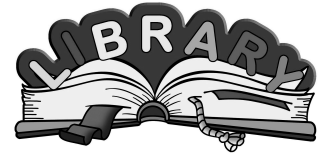
- Preschool Story Time (geared to children aged three to five) Friday January 17th, 10:00 am. We'll have stories and activities about "Sunshine and Snow!"

The annual Winter Reading for children ages 0-5 will be held during the month of February, 2025. The theme for Winter Reading is "Reading with the Little Blue Truck." The Kickoff will be a PJ Party at the Library on Wednesday, January 29, from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. (Snow date is Wed. February 5.) Wear your pjs,

bring a blanket or towel, and snuggle up and read with your family (older children are welcome!) As usual, there will be a surprise guest and photo opportunities! Children will get a bedtime snack to take home.

Check the library Facebook page (New Market Area Library) for more information on events (and cancellations!)

January Adult Program, Sunday, January 12th at 2:00 pm. Our speaker will be New Market's own Jon Henry. He will share about the growth of his business, his support of local farmers and entrepreneurial producers, and his cash match program for those using SNAP benefits. Jon Henry General Store has been a go-to place for locals, a draw for tourists and an award-winning boost to the local economy.



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## WINTER WEATHER ADVISORIES

The onset of the Holidays often brings cold weather and snow right along with it. Whether the storm totals 1" or 12"+, winter weather presents challenges for all of us. Here are a few tips in advance of this winter season:

- **Be prepared:** Predicting weather seems to be a challenge even with advances in 21st century meteorology. With few exceptions winter storms are rarely a total surprise. Winter weather advisories are usually posted days in advance of the storm. Use that time to restock your medications, food and other essentials.
- **Be careful:** It may seem like an overused piece of advice, but when you travel unnecessarily on snow covered roads you put yourself and your vehicle at risk and make clearing roads that much more challenging. For those of you who do have to travel, plan ahead and leave yourself extra time to get to your destination.
- **Be patient:** Removing snow from streets takes time. Storm duration, temperature and sunlight all affect how quickly streets are cleared. Often it's not until the sun returns and day time temperatures exceed 32 degrees that frozen snow and ice on streets can completely be removed.
- **Be helpful:** After the snow has stopped, please help keep your neighbors and friends safe by clearing the sidewalk(s) that fronts your property. It's not only the right thing to do; it's also required by town ordinance.



## YOU ARE INVITED!

**WHERE:** Reformation Lutheran Church  
9283 Congress St.

**What:** Home Cooked Lunch and Fellowship

**When:** 11:00 a.m. (First Thursday of every Month)

**Everyone is welcome! Please come!**

Freewill offering/donations accepted

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**WHERE:** Manor Memorial United Methodist Church

**WHAT:** Pancake and Sausage Breakfast

**WHEN:** January 25, February 22, March 22

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Freewill Offering Accepted



## HEAVY TRASH PICK-UP 2025

The Town's Public Works Crews will be collecting heavy trash items **FOUR TIMES THIS YEAR (see dates below)**. This month, they will be out picking up your heavy trash items and live Christmas trees from Monday, January 6th through Friday, January 10th. Please place all heavy trash curbside. Crews will not go onto private property to make collections. This service is provided to our residential customers only. Crews will pick up trash by item type during the week and will have all trash picked up by the end of the day on Friday, January 10th, 2024. Brush and limbs must be tied in bundles no longer than four feet in length. To ensure removal, all heavy trash should be placed curbside no later than 7:00 am on Friday, January 10th, 2024. Due to State laws governing the operation of the Shenandoah County Landfill, the Town is unable to remove old TVs, computers, tires, or hazardous materials such as pesticides, herbicides, paint, paint thinner, etc. For instructions on where to take the aforementioned items, you may call the Shenandoah County Landfill at 540-984-8573. Thank you for your cooperation.

**This year's heavy trash pick-up schedule is:**

- **January 6-10 – including live Christmas trees**
- **May 12-16**
- **Aug 11-15**
- **Oct 20-24**

## MAINTAIN ACCESS TO YOUR WATER METER

It is very important that customers maintain clear access to their water meters from the public right-of-way. Obstacles that may block the radio signals include building materials, foliage and metal objects located between the street and the meter pit.

All town water customers are responsible for the upkeep of the area between their meter pit and the street. Please assist us by trimming foliage and by clearing snow and ice from the lid of the meter pit. Landscaping or fencing should be kept at least 1-3 feet from the meter pit.

Maintain access to your water meter to assist us with:

- Meter Reading
- Emergency shutoffs (for frozen pipes) when you are away from home or are unable to turn off the water yourself; and
- Emergency water meter maintenance



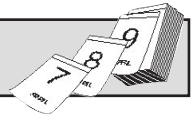
## LOAVES AND FISHES FOOD PANTRY



Loaves and Fishes food pantry is located in the basement of Manor Memorial Methodist Church (9320 North Congress Street). The basement entrance is located in the back of the Church along John Sevier Road. The pantry is open to all on the 3rd Thursday of every month from 1:00 pm-4:30 pm.

Next food pantry is Thursday, Jan 16, 2025.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## January 2025

- 1 Town Office Closed in Observance of New Year's Day
- 6-10 Heavy Trash Pickup
- 15 Water/Sewer Bills Due
- 20 Town Office Closed in Observance of  
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 21 Town Council Meeting  
(Tuesday instead of Monday) 6:30 pm

## February 2025

- 15 Water/Sewer Bills Due
- 17 Town Office Closed in Observance of Presidents Day
- 18 Town Council Meeting  
(Tuesday instead of Monday) 6:30 pm

## TOWN OF NEW MARKET CONTACT INFORMATION

### Emergency Services:

Emergencies: 911  
Shenandoah County Dispatch: 540-459-6101  
Police Department: 540-740-3776  
Fire and Rescue: 540-740-8904

New Market Town Office: 540-740-3432

Dispatch: 540-459-6101  
(After-hours and weekend Water/Sewer Emergencies)

Town of New Market  
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
(540) 740-3432 • [www.newmarketvirginia.com](http://www.newmarketvirginia.com)  
9418 John Sevier Road • P.O. Box 58 • New Market, VA 22844

### TOWN COUNCIL

Peter Hughes, Mayor • Peggy Harkness, Vice Mayor  
Scott Wymer • Daryl Watkins • Bob King • Janice Hannah • Larry Bompiani  
Jason J. Ham, Town Attorney

### ADMINISTRATION

Nathan Garrison..... Town Manager	Savannah Frazier..... Events & Marketing Director
Summer Barden.....Assistant Town Manager	Amber Smoot..... Executive Assistant
Chris Rinker..... Police Chief	Lindsey Kipps..... Office Assistant
Teresa Green..... Town Treasurer	De Prunka..... Office Assistant
J.D. Fadley.....Public Works Director	

**An Equal Opportunity Community**

**Boxholder  
P.O. Box Section  
New Market, VA 22844**

**9418 John Sevier Road  
P.O. Box 58  
New Market, Virginia 22844  
[www.newmarketvirginia.com](http://www.newmarketvirginia.com)**



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U.S. POSTAGE  
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New Market, VA  
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